

REMARKS

Claims 13-14, 16-27 and 29-38 remain in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Claims 1-12 have been canceled from consideration with the present application without prejudice to pursue the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuation or divisional applications. Claims 15 and 28 have been withdrawn from consideration with the present application as being drawn to a non-elected species. As these amendments do not introduce any new matter into the above identified application, their entry at this time is warranted.

All claims were subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 for the reasons stated in paragraphs 1-5 of the Office Action. Restriction was required to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-12 drawn to a network, classified in class 463, subclass 42.
- II. Claims 13-38 drawn to a method of providing voice communication to game players, classified in class 463, subclass 35.

It was asserted that inventions II and I were related as process and apparatus for its practice. In addition, should Group II be selected, then election was required between two species for the reasons given in paragraphs 6-7 of the Office Action. It was asserted that Group II contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

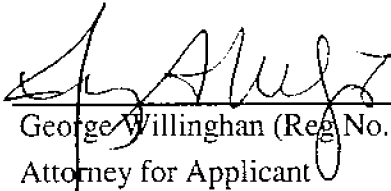
- a. A method for providing VOIP with a centralized game server (Claims 14 & 27)
- b. A method of providing VOIP with a plurality of distributed game servers (Claims 15 & 28)

Applicant elects Group I and the species of claims 14 and 27. Claims 13 and 26 were indicated as generic, and claims 14, 16-25, 27 and 29-38 all depend either directly or indirectly from claims 13 and 26 and therefore remain in the present application for the Examiner's review and consideration.

Applicant asserts that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notification of which is respectfully requested. As the present amendments do not introduce any new claims above the original number of filed claims, no fees are believed due for the submission of this amendment.

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Respectfully submitted,



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